[14th March 1922

A.—(*a*) The Government are advised that the State is under no legal obligation to compensate private persons for losses incurred as a result of the rebellion. They are however prepared as a matter of grace to assist persons who have incurred such losses in the reconstruction of their affairs. The proceeds of all magisterial and judicial fines imposed on rebels are being ear-marked for the purpose. Should it be found possible and expedient to impose a fine under section 9 of the Mappilla Outrages Act, 1859, the first charge upon the amount levied will be the compensation of persons who have suffered. The question of imposing such a fine is now under examination.

(*b*) Temporary relief is being afforded under a scheme drawn up under the Agriculturists Loans Act. The details of the scheme are contained in G.O. No. 173, Public, dated 23rd February 1922, which has been laid on the editors' table.

(*c*) It has been found that there is no need for any general remission of Government dues. Orders have been issued that the collection of revenue should proceed as far as possible, but that no distraint should be carried out without the orders of the Revenue Divisional Officer who should satisfy himself that the case is not one in which a suspension of the collection is called for.

Committee to enquire into the distressed condition of Mappilla women and children.

1368 *Q.*—Mr. T. C. Tangavelu Pillai: Will the Hon'ble the Home Member be pleased

(i) to state—

(*a*) whether the Committee appointed to report on the distressed condition of Mappilla women and children have submitted their report ;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay it on the table ; and

(*c*) the places visited by the members of the said Committee and the number of witnesses examined ; and

(ii) to lay on the table the evidence recorded by the Committee ?

A.—The Committee was appointed by the Special Commissioner for Malabar Affairs with the object of eliciting information to help the local relief committee. It has submitted no report to the Government, but the Government understand that the Special Commissioner has communicated the purport of its findings to the local relief committee for such action as may be necessary. The Government are not in a position to lay papers on the table, but they understand that the Committee visited twenty-five places and examined eighty-two witnesses.